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army and navy, education, municipal progress, and finance are also to be found in this group. The third group (chapters xxviii to xxxvii) deals with social and art conditions. Here are discussed Japanese painting, sculpture, literature, journalism, drama and music, as well as such subjects as Japanese philanthropy, prison reform, etc. The fourth group of chapters is devoted to the colonial possessions, their resources, administration and value to Japan.

In style, the book is clear and most readable; its typographical form pleasing. Marginal paragraph headings add to its value as a book of reference. The several colored maps possess the very great advantage of clearness, due to the exclusion of detail and the insertion of only the important and essential.

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**Reinsch, Paul S.** *Public International Unions.* Pp. viii, 189. Price \$1.65. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1911.

In this interesting book, Professor Reinsch has, if the reviewer is not mistaken, given us the first systematic treatment of international unions which has appeared in the English language. At the same time that the codification and comprehension of the rules of international law based on the equality of states is progressing rapidly, the governments of the world have formed associations for the supervision and discussion of certain interests, too broad in their scope to be independently controlled by any one state. Take the Universal Postal Union for example. The simplicity and effectiveness of the world-wide postal communications depends upon the acceptance by all the nations of the world of a uniform rate of postage and a proportional share of the expense and profits. Such a universal agreement could not, of course, be reached by means of separate agreements between the different countries of the world. A conference of delegates from the different nations was necessary. With the ever-increasing development of international relations, it has been found necessary to create other unions to look after economic, sanitary, and scientific interests.

When any matter assumes sufficient importance to justify international regulation an international conference of delegates of all the interested powers is called and a convention embodying certain unanimously accepted principles is adopted. This convention ordinarily provides for the calling of periodic congresses to modify the convention, and, also, establishes a central office or bureau as it is called. This central bureau receives all information regarding the particular matter committed to its charge and publishes reports, giving information and making suggestions for the further improvement of the service. It is very noteworthy that the periodic congresses called to legislate for the furtherance of the purpose of the union is not a body where the representative or delegate from one state may block by his vote the adoption of any proposal, but a majority vote of the delegates present is sufficient to put through a measure. International unions have, furthermore, broken away from the unworkable theory of the equality of states. Great empires, such as Great Britain, sent delegates to each administratively independent territory like Canada and Australia. With such a system it is possible for an international union to transact its affairs in much the same way that a large corporation would look after its interests.

As the number of these international unions increases and as the importance of international regulation gains upon local regulation within the state, much in the same way as the Interstate Commerce Commission has increased in importance at the expense of state commissions, international control of international activities will have become a fact.

This growth of international unions brings with it a growth of international law applying to their control and action, but this international law is growing up in a quite unobtrusive way as a result of the necessity of finding a system to meet the needs of the case. Scientific experts with broad outlook meet together to formulate regulations to facilitate the development of the particular matter in which they are interested. This leads them to make mutual concessions to the representatives of the different states for the purpose of attaining the common object dear to all. And so a reasonable system of procedure is being evolved. At the capitals of the world and in strictly diplomatic concerns the smallest states proudly claim equal rank and position with the greatest, and the application of the rule requiring unanimous consent for all decisions prevents the effective handling of international affairs. International unions are quietly building up the real international law which will govern in the place of the unworkable system of international equality.

Professor Reinsch, also, discusses the effect of the growth of these international unions in preventing war. The treatment is scientific, yet not technical, so as to interest not alone the student of international law and government. Scientists, economists and those in quest of general information will read it with profit.

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**Roe, Gilbert E.** *Our Judicial Oligarchy.* Pp. xiv, 239. Price \$1.00. New York: B. W. Huebsch, 1912.

**Storey, M.** *The Reform of Legal Procedure.* Pp. 263. Price \$1.35. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1912.

Both of these books deal with a subject of great present public interest—our judicial organization. In temper they stand in strong contrast. Mr. Roe believes the courts have forsaken their proper field of activity to usurp the functions of the legislature and that their powers should be curtailed; Mr. Storey, that conditions economic and political have so changed the circumstances of trials that we need many adjustments in our judicial system, but no overturning of our long-established institutions. The power of the courts should be increased rather than diminished. The one shows us the abuses which have developed in our courts, the other some constructive policies which may be followed for their correction.

Mr. Roe opens his book with a discussion of the very patent distrust with which the courts are now regarded by a large portion of our people. He then argues that "the courts have usurped the power to declare laws unconstitutional"—a thesis which recent studies seem to have disproved at least as to the federal judiciary. Next he defends stronger ground—that if courts pass on validity of